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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

ABEL JALIL, NEVEEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2175

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/785,204

Applicant(s)

SAITO ET AL.

Examiner

Neveen Abel-Jalil

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


DOV POPOVICI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 10-May-2004, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. *A new ground of rejection is set forth below.*

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4, 9-11, 14-17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shaffer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,094,681).

As to claim 1, Shaffer et al. discloses an information processing apparatus displaying associated information corresponding to a present event, comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring said associated information using existing information corresponding to a past event (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 7-23);

event occurrence detection means for detecting the occurrence of said present event (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 24-37);

search means for searching said existing information having similarity to information corresponding to the present event detected by the event occurrence detection means (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 38-59); and

display control means for controlling displaying of said associated information related to the existing information retrieved by said search means (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 60-67, and Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 1-11).

As to claim 2, Shaffer et al. discloses wherein said event occurrence detection means detects sending, receiving, or editing of an electronic mail as said event (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 9-11, and see Shaffer et al. column 5, lines 34-59).

As to claim 3, Shaffer et al. discloses wherein said acquisition means acquires a title and a URL of a Web page containing said important word as the associated information (See Shaffer et al. column 6, lines 35-59, and see Shaffer et al. column 6, lines 13-22).

As to claim 4, Shaffer et al. discloses wherein said acquisition means acquires, in a predetermined timed relation, said associated information related to said important word selected by said selection means (See Shaffer et al. column 7, lines 41-67, wherein “timed relation” reads on “scheduling reminders”, and see Shaffer et al. abstract).

As to claim 9, Shaffer et al. discloses information processing apparatus for displaying a character on a display device and for displaying associated information related to a text file processed by a predetermined application program, comprising:

processing detection means for detecting, as an event, predetermined processing of said predetermined application program (See Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 10-5, also see Shaffer et al. column 6, lines 56-59);

keyword detection means for detecting a keyword from said text file processed by said predetermined application program corresponding to said event detected by said processing detection means (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 48-64, also see Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 11-20);

search means for searching a database for said associated information by searching a database for a previous processed existing file corresponding to said keyword detected by said keyword detection means (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 38-59);

input means for inputting a command (See Shaffer et al. column 10, lines 31-33);

command processing means for executing, in response to said command inputted by said input means, processing on said associated information retrieved by said search means (See Shaffer et al. column 10, lines 31-40); and

display control means for displaying, in response to said event detected by said processing detection means, said character onto said display device and changing a manner of displaying said character in response to said command inputted by said input means (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 60-67, and Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 1-11).

As to claim 10, Shaffer et al. discloses said display control means also displays text information as a script of said character (See Shaffer et al. column 7, lines 19-37).

As to claim 11, Shaffer et al. discloses comprising output means for outputting a voice signal corresponding to said text information displayed by said display control means (See Shaffer et al. column 7, lines 19-37).

As to claim 14, Shaffer et al. discloses wherein said associated information is a URL of a Web page and said command processing means starts a WWW browser so as to access said URL of said Web page as said associated information in response to an access command inputted by said input means (See Shaffer et al. column 6, lines 13-59).

As to claims 15, and 16, Shaffer et al. discloses an information processing method, and a program storage medium storing a computer-readable program for an information processing apparatus for displaying a character on a display device and for displaying associated information related to a text file processed by a predetermined application program (See Shaffer et al. column 6, lines 13-59), comprising the steps of:

detecting, as an event, predetermined processing of said predetermined application program (See Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 10-5, also see Shaffer et al. column 6, lines 56-59);

detecting a keyword from said text file processed by said predetermined application program corresponding to said event detected in the processing detecting step (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 48-64, also see Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 11-20);

searching for said associated information by searching for a previously processed existing file corresponding to said keyword detected in the keyword detecting step (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 38-59);

executing, in response to a command inputted, processing on said associated information retrieved in the searching step (See Shaffer et al. column 10, lines 31-40); and

displaying, in response to said event detected in the processing of said detecting step, said character onto said display device and changing a manner of displaying said character in response to said command inputted in the inputting step (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 60-67, and Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 1-11).

As to claim 17, Shaffer et al. discloses comprising:

grouping means for grouping said existing information into a group of existing information based upon attribute information of said existing information (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 48-64, also see Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 11-20),

wherein said acquisition means acquires the associated information related to said group of existing information made by said grouping means as said existing information (See Shaffer et

al. column 8, lines 26-30, also see Shaffer et al. column 8, lines 56-67, and Shaffer et al. column 9, lines 28),

said search means searches for said group of existing information as said existing information having similarity to information corresponding to the present event detected by the event occurrence detection means (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 48-64), and

the display control means controls displaying of said associated information related to said group of existing information as said existing information retrieved by said search means (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 60-67, and Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 1-11).

As to claim 19, Shaffer et al. discloses wherein said existing information corresponding to said past event is an existing text file and said information corresponding to said present event detected by the event occurrence detection means is a text file (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 48-64, also see Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 11-20), further comprising,

selection means for selecting an important word from among words contained in said existing text file (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 48-64, also see Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 11-20),

wherein the acquisition means acquires said associated information by using said important word selected by said selection means as said existing information (See Shaffer et al. column 5, lines 42-65, wherein “important word” reads on “keyword”).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5-8, 12-13, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaffer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,094,681) in view of Conley, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,434,745 B1).

As to claim 5, Shaffer et al. as modified discloses further comprising:

if an update condition is satisfied, update mean for updating said database constructed by said database construction means (See Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 11-67, wherein "database" reads on "local memory").

As to claim 6, Shaffer et al. as modified discloses wherein said update condition can be set by a user (See Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 11-67).

As to claims 7, and 8, Shaffer et al. discloses an information processing method for an information processing apparatus, and program storage medium storing a computer-readable program for detecting a keyword from a text file corresponding to an event that has taken place and displaying associated information corresponding to said keyword (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 48-64, also see Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 11-20), comprising the steps of:

selecting an important word from among words contained in said existing text file (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 48-64, also see Shaffer et al. column 4, lines 11-20);

detecting the occurrence of said event (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 24-37);

detecting a keyword from said text file corresponding to said event detected in the event occurrence detecting step (See Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 48-64);

searching said database constructed in the database constructing step for said associated information corresponding to said keyword detected in the keyword detecting step (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 38-59); and

controlling displaying of said associated information retrieved in the searching step (See Shaffer et al. column 2, lines 60-67, and Shaffer et al. column 3, lines 1-11).

Shaffer et al. does not teach extracting attribute information from an existing text file; acquiring said associated information related to said important word selected in the selecting step;

constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted in the extraction step and said associated information acquired in the acquiring step.

Conley, Jr. et al. teaches extracting attribute information from an existing text file; acquiring said associated information related to said important word selected in the selecting step (See Conley, Jr. et al. column 1, lines 40-46, prior art, also see Conley, Jr. et al. column 7, lines 5-53, and see Conley, Jr. et al. column 8, lines 38-62);

constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted in the extraction step and said associated information acquired in the acquiring step.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Shaffer et al. to include extracting attribute information from an existing text file; acquiring said associated information related to said important word selected in the selecting step; constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted in the extraction step and said associated information acquired in the acquiring step.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Shaffer et al. by the teaching of Conley, Jr. et al. to include extracting attribute information from an existing text file; acquiring said associated information related to said important word selected in the selecting step; constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted in the extraction step and said associated information acquired in the acquiring step because it provides seamless and easy system of gathering marketing information based on the end user's browser's use.

As to claim 12, Shaffer et al. does not teach wherein said command processing means displays, on said display device, said associated information retrieved by said search means in an object form with respect to at least one of movement, storage, and deletion, in response to a display command inputted by said input means.

Conley, Jr. et al. teaches wherein said command processing means displays, on said display device, said associated information retrieved by said search means in an object form with respect to at least one of movement, storage, and deletion, in response to a display command inputted by said input means (See Conley, Jr. et al. column 8, lines 5-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Shaffer et al. to include wherein said command processing means displays, on said display device, said associated information retrieved by said search means in an object form with respect to at least one of movement, storage, and deletion, in response to a display command inputted by said input means.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Shaffer et al. by the teaching of Conley, Jr. et al. to include wherein said command processing means displays, on said display device, said associated information retrieved by said search means in an object form with respect to at least one of movement, storage, and deletion, in response to a display command inputted by said input means because it provides accurate accounting and classification of database records and it also provides for efficient method for managing user related information.

As to claim 13, Shaffer et al. as modified discloses wherein said command processing means stores said associated information in response to a storage command inputted by said input means and displays a list of the stored associated information onto said display device (See Conley, Jr. et al. column 1, lines 40-46, prior art, also see Conley, Jr. et al. column 7, lines 5-53, and see Conley, Jr. et al. column 8, lines 38-62).

As to claim 20, Shaffer et al. does not teach comprising:

extraction mean for extracting attribute information from the existing information;

database construction means for constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted by said extraction means and said associated information acquired by said acquisition means.

Conley, Jr. et al. teaches comprising:

extraction mean for extracting attribute information from the existing information (See Conley, Jr. et al. column 1, lines 40-46, prior art, also see Conley, Jr. et al. column 7, lines 5-53, and see Conley, Jr. et al. column 8, lines 38-62);

database construction means for constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted by said extraction means and said associated information acquired by said acquisition means (See Conley, Jr. et al. column 2, lines 50-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Shaffer et al. to include extraction mean for extracting attribute information from the existing information; database construction means for constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted by said extraction means and said associated information acquired by said acquisition means.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Shaffer et al. by the teaching of Conley, Jr. et al. to include extraction mean for extracting attribute information from the existing information; database construction means for constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted by said extraction means and said associated information acquired by said acquisition means because it provides accurate accounting and classification of database records and it also provides for efficient method for managing user related information.

6. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaffer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,094,681) in view of CAPPI (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0038308 A1).

As to claim 18, Shaffer et al. does not teach comprising:

weight calculation means for calculating weight of keywords contained in each said group of existing information,

selection means for selecting an important word among said key words based upon said weight of key words,

wherein said acquisition means acquires said associated information related to said group of existing information using said important word selected by said selection means.

CAPPI teaches comprising:

weight calculation means for calculating weight of keywords contained in each said group of existing information (See CAPPI page 9, paragraphs 0103-0106),

selection means for selecting an important word among said key words based upon said weight of key words (See CAPPI page 9, paragraphs 0108-0111),

wherein said acquisition means acquires said associated information related to said group of existing information using said important word selected by said selection means (See CAPPI page 14, paragraphs 0157-0163).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Shaffer et al. to include weight calculation means for calculating weight of keywords contained in each said group of existing information, selection

means for selecting an important word among said key words based upon said weight of key words, wherein said acquisition means acquires said associated information related to said group of existing information using said important word selected by said selection means.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Shaffer et al. by the teaching of CAPPI to include weight calculation means for calculating weight of keywords contained in each said group of existing information, selection means for selecting an important word among said key words based upon said weight of key words, wherein said acquisition means acquires said associated information related to said group of existing information using said important word selected by said selection means because it provides accurate accounting and classification of database records and it also provides for efficient method for managing user related information.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Narayanaswamy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,629,106 B1) teaches event monitoring and correlation system.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Neveen Abel-Jalil whose telephone number is 703-305-8114.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:30PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on 703-305-3830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Neveen Abel-Jalil
July 18, 2004



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